Agent's Docket N. 33471/DOB/rf

OFFICIAL

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark

Office (Fax No. (001)(703) 308-7725) on the date shown below.

Milan,

April 17, 2001

Guido MODIANO (Reg. No. 19,928)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington D.C. 20231 USA

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1,136(a)

Sir.

The applicant herewith petitions the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for response to the Office action dated October 17, 2000 for three months from January 17, 2001 to April 17, 2001. Please charge the

deposit account number 13-3860

of applicant's agent of record, in the amount of

US\$ 445.00 (fee code 217)

to cover the cost of the extension. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to the above numbered deposit account.

The applicant's undersigned agent fully expects both the present request for extension of time and the concurrently filed response to the Office action dated October 17, 2000 to reach the Patent and Trademark Office within the requested extended date for response of April 17, 2001. In the event that the present request for extension of time is insufficient for entering the concurrently filed response, please accept this as a petition for any extension of time necessary in order to enter such response and please charge the necessary extension fee to the above-identified deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Guido MÓDIANO (Reg. No. 19,928)

Agent for the Applicant

05/15/2001 VERDWINZ Date 9002 133860 April 31/75 2001

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Address:

Via Meravigli 16, 20123 MILAN-ITALY

Telephone:

(from USA) (011)(39)(02)869-2442

Telefax:

(from USA)(011)(39)(02)863-860